

the north foot of the San Bernardino Mountains and keys for determining the names of native trees, shrubs, herbs, ferns, and most of the weed plants of cultivated fields. (The grasses are omitted.)" Thus reads the subtitle of the most recent addition to the local floras of the California area. The work is composed of keys to family, genus and species. Descriptions are not included. The first page treats of the principal groups of plants in which are differentiated the Thallophyta and Embryophyta, the Atracheata and Tracheata, the Lycopsida and Pteropsida, the Gymnospermae and Angiospermae, and the Dicotyledoneae and Monocotyledoneae. This series of main subdivisions has not previously been used in any California flora. Only the Lycopsida and Pteropsida are treated further. The arrangement is essentially Englerian. The work should prove a useful addition within its intended scope in the local area to which it applies.—H. L. M.

NOTES AND NEWS

ELODEA Densa CASP. IN CALIFORNIA. Recent collecting in the marshes of the delta of the San Joaquin River disclosed large colonies of *Elodea densa* Casp. flowering abundantly in Trapper's Slough on Roberts Island about eight miles west of Stockton (H. L. Mason 12,075, August 26, 1938). This is a common South American species apparently recently escaped from cultivation. It has been reported also from Florida. It differs from *E. canadensis* Michx. in its larger size, its leaves in whorls of four instead of two or three, and its flowers two or three to a spathe instead of solitary.—H. L. M.

RIBES TULARENSE (COV.) FEDDE IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK. *Ribes tularense* (Cov.) Fedde, described thirty years ago from a single specimen and not since recognized in the field, has recently been discovered in Sequoia National Park by T. H. Harris and F. A. Patty, members of the blister rust control project of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, United States Department of Agriculture. Originally collected in Giant Forest, Tulare County, California, by Katherine Brandegee in 1905, the species was described by Frederick V. Coville as *Grossularia tularenensis*. It is considered a distinct entity by Alwin Berger in his monograph of the genus (N. Y. State Agr. Expt. Sta., Tech. Bull. 109: 87. 1924). Jepson treats it as conspecific with *Ribes binominatum* Heller (Fl. Calif. 2: 159. 1936).

Plants of *Ribes tularense* were found in abundance, in May, 1938, along the Colony Mill road on north-facing and east-facing slopes at an altitude of about five thousand feet in a dense forest consisting mainly of white fir (*Abies concolor* Lindl. & Gord.) and sugar pine (*Pinus Lambertiana* Dougl.) The Colony Mill road is the "old" (North Fork of the Kaweah River) road into Giant Forest from Three Rivers, Tulare County. In the fall of 1938,

after extensive reconnaissance by blister rust scouts in various portions of Sequoia National Park, *R. tularensis* was found at Hidden Spring, northwest from Rejoicing Summit, across Yucca Creek canyon and up Cave Creek canyon. Specimens were collected and deposited in the Herbarium of the University of California, and living plants will be added to the collection of *Ribes* in the University of California Botanical Garden, Berkeley.

The relative susceptibility of this gooseberry to white pine blister rust has not been determined. Many of the plants in Sequoia National Park are located at such distances from five-leaved pines that they can probably remain undisturbed without endangering the pines.—CLARENCE R. QUICK, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, United States Department of Agriculture.

On May 19, 1939, the Linnean Society of London elected five foreign members, three of these from the United States: Dr. W. K. Gregory of the American Museum of Natural History, New York City; Dr. Alfred Rehder of Harvard University; Dr. William Albert Setchell of the University of California. Dr. Setchell had been a Fellow of the Society for some time. The number of foreign members is limited to fifty. The Linnean Gold Medal was bestowed upon Dr. Elmer D. Merrill of Harvard University.

Word has been received that the National Museum of Natural History in Paris has awarded Dr. H. S. Reed, Professor of Plant Physiology, University of California, Berkeley, a diploma conferring upon him the title of 'Correspondant du Museum.'

Until the appearance of "Grasses of Oklahoma" by H. I. Featherly (Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, Technical Bulletin No. 3, 1-132. 1938) there had been no authoritative handbook covering the grasses of that region. Descriptions of 73 genera, 232 species (one of them new) and 24 varieties are included. Illustrations are given for 134 of the described species; tribal and generic keys are based on A. S. Hitchcock's work, but specific keys are, for the most part, original; a glossary and bibliography complete the work. Inclusion of cultivated grasses should make this handbook of special value to agriculturists of the region.

Three new signatures of "Species Lupinorum" by Charles Piper Smith have appeared recently. The contents are as follows: paper three, A Preliminary Survey of the lupines of Northern Mexico, exclusive of Sonora and Baja California (third signature, pp. 33-48, July, 1938; fourth signature, pp. 49-54, July, 1938); paper four, A Preliminary Survey of the lupines of Southern Mexico (fourth signature, pp. 54-64, July, 1938; fifth signature, pp. 65-80, August, 1938). Thirteen new species, and thirteen new varieties are described; six new combinations are made.